

VIETNAM COURIER

Information Weekly - E.O. 14 Tran Hung Dao Street, Hanoi - Democratic Republic of Viet Nam

Sept. 16
1968
No 182
5th Year



P.L.A.F. fighters assaulting enemy positions in South Viet Nam urban centres

South Viet Nam

NEW SUCCESSFUL P.L.A.F. OFFENSIVES IN TAY NINH

- Major Part of Provincial Capital Controlled by Patriots.
- U.S. Base at Tra Phi Overrun for 3rd Time in 3 Weeks

North Viet Nam

U.S. AGGRESSORS GET HARSH PUNISHMENT

59 Aircraft Downed,
7 Vessels Burnt in August.

THOSE were the losses inflicted on the U.S. by the D.R.V.N. people and armed forces in August.

Beginning with 5 planes downed on the first of the month, including the 20th bazaied by the province, Ha

Thien ground to planes in August. On August 1, Quang Binh province scored its 20th kill and two days later Vinh Linh caught up with Ha Tinh by knocking out of the sky its 20th U.S. plane, and 30 planes in the whole month. Quang Binh brought down 5 planes on August 9 alone.

It is worth mentioning that in August, a great number of enemy aircraft were grounded before they could release their bombs or fire their rockets.

Besides those most brilliant exploits achieved by the conventional A.A. Defence, those of the peasants and workers' militia were also particularly remarkable. In a superimposed jet, they shot down, including 5 in Tuyen Hoa district, Quang Binh province.

Up to Sept. 12, 1968

3,152

U.S. aircraft
were downed

- In Tay Nguyen, Western Highlands, over 400 adverse troops put out of action in 6 days.
- Third U.S.-puppet disaster at Go Huynh (Quang Ngai province) : 3 companies destroyed.
- Da Nang Sector: 650 enemy soldiers killed, wounded or captured between August 30 and September 4.
- Near Hue City, one U.S. artillery battalion and one U.S. infantry company wiped out: 455 G.I.'s knocked out of action and 12 105mm and 175mm howitzers destroyed.

26,000 soldiers and police scored Chicago, where the Democratic national convention was held. Such was the spectacle presented to the world by the United States of America: 26,000 police and soldiers, 1000 and political congress! In spite of all the electoral machines, resounding speeches, compromise motions and ambiguous programme, which the U.S. offers at present to the world the image of a divided, anguished nation, torn asunder and a prey to violence. Glimpses of rebellion, like tear up their draft cards, large numbers of writers and artists, well-known politicians, scholars of high repute and even members of the government's policy; business circles are beset with anxiety.

PRESIDENT HO CHI MINH'S CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO SOUTH VIET NAM ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE

To President Nguyen Huu Tho, and members of the Central Committee of the Party, the National Front for Liberation and the Command of the South Viet Nam People's Liberation Armed Forces:

I cordially send you my best greetings, and request you to convey to our fellow-countrymen, fighters and cadres throughout South Viet Nam my following congratulations:

Dear South Viet Nam fellow-countrymen, fighters and cadres,

The heroic South Vietnamese armed forces and people have been upholding the spirit of continual offensive and defensive and victory. To mark the recent anniversary of the August Revolution and National Day, you fought many fresh battles; you mounted hundreds of successful attacks and uprisings in all parts of South Viet Nam like:



Tay Ninh,
Binh Long,
Da Nang,
Quang Nam,
Quang Ngai,
Bac Tre,
Gia Lai,
and many other places.

These big victories of South Viet Nam have made our position yet sturdier and our strength still greater.

But the nearer our victory, the greater our hardships. The heroic South Vietnamese armed forces and people, resolutely defying all difficulties and hardships, fighting valiantly and persistently, will certainly record still greater victories.

Please accept my affectionate and "determination to win" wishes.

Hanoi, September 8, 1968
HO CHI MINH

PAGE 8

Whither America?

And yet never has America been so rich, never has the output of her factories been so high, never have the inventions of her scientists been so numerous, never has her national income been so considerable. If one probes the heart of each American, one will feel that his pride of belonging to the United States of America is strong. The man on earth is strongly tinged with bitterness, worry, even agony. For the first time in U.S. history, the American people as a whole feel that they are at such a dead end, that of the nation, has come to a standstill. A nation can turn out ten million motor-cars per year, carry out successful landings on the surface of the moon, either re-establish its citizens' either material stability, law and order in the cities, or tranquillity of conscience. After Saigon, Dong Hoi, Vinh Ngai, after Martin Luther King, came the turn of Robert Kennedy; after Watts, there were Newark and other cities. Whether America...

Mr. Johnson had solemnly promised peace, but he has intensified the war. Democrats

(Continued page 2)

VIET NAM AND THE WORLD AT LARGE

Afro-Asian Solidarity Conference Reaffirms Full Support for Viet Nam

PRESIDENT HO CHI MINH'S GREETING MESSAGE

I have the honour to convey to the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Extraordinary Conference my warmest greetings. I sincerely thank you for your unfailing and powerful support to our struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation. Your conference constitutes a great inspiration for our entire people and a brilliant manifestation of solidarity among the Asian and African peoples.

The U.S. imperialists are waging one of the most ruthless wars of aggression in history against the Vietnamese people. Exercising their sacred right of self-defence, the whole Vietnamese people have been resolute, resisting it to defend their independence and freedom, have recorded repeated big successes and are sure to win final victory.

Though the United States is unquestionably in a losing position, it keeps intensifying the war in both zones of Viet Nam and maintaining a most obdurate attitude in Paris, which prevents progress of the conversations between the two sides. But its setbacks grow in proportion to its stubbornness and perfidy.

Our people cherish peace but this must be peace in real independence and freedom. The United States must unconditionally stop the bombing raids and all other acts of war on the whole territory of the D.R.V.N.; it must end its aggression in South Viet Nam, withdraw all U.S. and satellite troops from there and let the South Vietnamese people settle themselves their own affairs; it must recognize the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and enter into talks with the latter on problems of concern to South Viet Nam. That is the substance of the four points of the D.R.V.N. and the Political Programmes of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation. That is a stand of independence and peace consistent with the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam.

I wish the Conference good success and I am sure that it will contribute to further step up the Asian and African peoples' movement of support for, and solidarity with, the Vietnamese people. I hope the U.S. imperialists aggressors in the interests of the Vietnamese people and of the national liberation movement in the world.

May the militant friendship between the Asian and African peoples in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism further consolidate and develop day by day.

Hanoi, September 8, 1968
HO CHI MINH
President of the Democratic
Republic of Viet Nam

THE Asian and African people fully support the May 26 statement of the D.R.V.N. National Assembly and the June 26 statement of South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation on the Vietnamese people's inalienable right to resist the U.S. aggressors at any place on the Vietnamese soil, declared Youseff El Sebai, Secretary General of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization in Support of the Vietnamese People's Fight against U.S. Imperialist Aggression, in his speech at the opening of the Extraordinary Conference in Cairo on September 7 attended by 51 delegations from various countries and observers from world organizations.

The conference gave a standing ovation to Nguyen Phu Soi, head of the South Viet Nam delegation, and Dr. Nguyen Van Huong, head of the North Viet Nam delegation, when they were introduced by Youseff El Sebai.

The Organisation's Secretary General warmly hailed the resounding victory won by the Vietnamese people in both zones which inspired the

TO THE READER

We are aware that there is much room for improvement in the wording of our paper. We apologize for this shortcoming and highly appreciate all your criticisms as these will help us to serve more efficiently in future.

23rd D.R.V.N. FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY (SEPT. 2) OBSERVED IN THE WORLD

On the occasion of the 23rd founding anniversary of the D.R.V.N., Council of Ministers, said:

"The Soviet Union backs the stand of the D.R.V.N. at the Viet Nam U.S. official conference. The Soviet Union supports the demand of the D.R.V.N. Government for a complete and unconditional political and military support to the Vietnamese people, including the sending of volunteers to fight at the side of the Vietnamese people.

"The Vietnamese people can rest assured that the Soviet Union will always stand on their side. Carrying out her internationalist duty, the Soviet Union will always support the D.R.V.N. and the Vietnamese people's necessary assistance in their struggle against U.S. aggression, for their right to build their life at their own will."

The message of congratulations signed by L.I. Brezhnev, Secretary General of the C.P.S.R. Central Committee, the Vietnamese President of the Presidium of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet, and A.N. Kosygin, Chairman

and Chou En-lai, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, wrote:

"The Vietnamese people's war against U.S. aggression, for national salvation is progressing splendidly."

"We firmly believe that, notwithstanding the many difficulties and obstacles they will still meet with in their march forward, the Vietnamese people will surely win final victory in their war against U.S. aggression, for national salvation."

"As heretofore, the 700 million Chinese people will persistently support the heroic struggle of the Vietnamese people against U.S. aggression, for their right to build their life at their own will."

The message from Cambodia's Prince Norodom Sihanouk to President Ho Chi Minh, read:

"I once again assure You of our full solidarity in the

News from CAMBODIA

Cambodian Government Refutes U.S. Slander

THE Royal Government of Cambodia on September 2 sent a note to the U.S. Ambassador refuting the U.S. August 15 claim that it was "deeply concerned over the intensified activity of the South Viet Nam Liberation Army (South Viet Nam Liberation Armed Forces-Ed.) in the South-eastern part of Svay Rieng province" of Cambodia.

The Cambodian Government's note pointed out: "Evidently, Cambodia does not threaten the security of the South Viet Nam. That note can precisely be regarded as an intervention in the internal affairs of the King-dom."

The note went on to say that the eye of international law is not all entitled to ask Cambodia, a sovereign State, to account for the defence of her neutrality and territorial integrity. The presence of U.S. and Cambodian armed forces in South Viet Nam is illegal and constitutes a flagrant violation of the Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam. There is consequently no ground for the U.S. government to interfere in the relations between Cambodia and Viet Nam.

Such a state of things brings home to the South Korean people that the only way to defend their country is to drive out the U.S. imperialists and overthrow the Pak Jung Hui clique to achieve national independence and rapidly healing the war wounds, have been holding aloft the banner of the 40 million Koreans, who, under the leadership of Chulhuan (i), speed in the building of their country into a state with a comprehensive, scientific, cultural, and agricultural, thus creating the basis for a firm, independent and self-supporting economy.

Since the founding of the D.P.R.K., the Korean Workers' Party, and the D.P.R.K. government have

20th Founding Anniversary of the DRP of Korea (September 9, 1948)

TWENTY-YEAR LONG HEROIC STRUGGLE

THE working people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea have just celebrated the 20th founding anniversary of their Republic.

For the 35 million Korean people the 20th September, 1968, takes pride of place in their plurimillenary history. The founding of the D.P.R.K. strengthens the most formidable force of Korea. In the birth and growth of the D.P.R.K. the working people find a firm prop and vigorous encouragement for their struggle against U.S. imperialism, for the freedom and for the liberation of the South and reunification of the country.

The last two decades have witnessed a heroic struggle and unprecedented successes in the history of Korea. Under the leadership of the Korean Workers' Party headed by comrade Kim Il-sung, the North Korean people, after defeating the U.S. aggressors and rapidly healing the war wounds, have been holding aloft the banner of the 40 million Koreans, who, under the leadership of Chulhuan (i), speed in the building of their country into a state with a comprehensive, scientific, cultural, and agricultural, thus creating the basis for a firm, independent and self-supporting economy.

Since the founding of the D.P.R.K., the Korean Workers' Party, and the D.P.R.K. government have

plete liberation of the country, their primary task and their main plan to work out the problem of unification of Korea by peaceful means on the basis of democracy and sovereignty without foreign interference. But the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys have been plotting to subvert the reasonable and sensible programme of the D.P.R.K. government. They plot to drive the Korean people into step up oppression and exploitation of the South Korean people. The Vietnamese people fully support the Korean people's struggle against U.S. imperialism, for the freedom and for the liberation of the South and reunification of the country.

Such a state of things brings home to the South Korean people that the only way to defend their country is to drive out the U.S. imperialists and overthrow the Pak Jung Hui clique to achieve national independence and rapidly healing the war wounds, have been holding aloft the banner of the 40 million Koreans, who, under the leadership of Chulhuan (i), speed in the building of their country into a state with a comprehensive, scientific, cultural, and agricultural, thus creating the basis for a firm, independent and self-supporting economy.

The great meeting held that the D.P.R.K. government and the Korean people's support were very obdurate. The more they were frenziedly

As comrades-in-arms fighting the same ideal and against the same enemy — U.S. imperialism — the Vietnamese people follow with deep

IN THE LIBERATED AREAS ZONES

Gia Lai Provincial People's Liberation Committee Set Up

PERED by the prevailing revolutionary upsurge, peoples of various nationalities in Gia Lai province in a short time completed the election to the People's Liberation Councils at various levels.

On the 25th Provincial People's Liberation Council and 15 persons of the Bahnar group and 5 others of the Kinh (Vietnamese majority people). The Gia Lai people are 3 heroes and a model fighters. All of them have distinguished records in the fighting and production fully representative of all strata of the fraternal nationalities and ethnic groups in the province.

The assembly also discussed the nature and power of people's power in the present revolutionary stage. Such power must be won by the people and for the people. It must serve to the people's cause, to the people's power, to the people's independence, to the people's democracy and the local traits.

In an atmosphere of solidarity, enthusiasm and confidence, the People's Liberation Council of Gia Lai province elected the Provincial People's Liberation Committee composed of a chairman, two vice-chairmen and 4 members.

Dead G.I. in Viet Nam jungle

Green are Vietnam's forests,
And red is Vietnam's soil,
Who lies there, dead,
In deep jungle forlorn?

An American G.I., dead,
His home state who knows?
His hair turned with red,
Eyes closed for ever,
Lonely in jungle remote.

Back home across the ocean,
His wife goes out for a stroll.
And a little girl, with a smile,
Sits in a daze, gone by her mother old.
Sits lost in prayers sad:

— Oh Virgin Mary, have pity on us,

Home may be soon return?

In the Viet Nam jungle, its summer,
Dust, heat, and the jungle down,
Oh G.I. hugging the earth,
Hear you Mother's prayer?

Green are Vietnam's forests,
And red is Vietnam's soil,
G.I. who lies there, dead,
Know who? Home the streets're in turmoil.

In days and days of protest,
Mother and her son, her mother,
Your wife and little toddler,
In front of troop trains lie fearless!

How magnificent, that gold-starred banner,
In American hands clasped tight!

In the jungle, eternal night,
Hail, demands your eyes,
May I ask: how many of America's youth,
Can look straight at the clear sky,

And see the truth?

— No, your for is not in Viet Nam,
But right there,

In America.

THANH HAI
(South Vietnamese poet)
Translated from the Vietnamese

VIET NAM COURIER

VIET NAM COURIER

In observance of the 20th
founding anniversary of the
D.R.P. of Korea, solemn meetings
were held in Moscow, Peking, Peking, Tiran, Tashkent, Bishkek, Bucharest, Sofia, Ulan Bator.

Many photo exhibitions
Viet Nam were put up in
the capital cities of brother
socialist countries. In Algeria,
Algiers, Oran, Constantine,
Tunis, Viet Nam films were
shown in many countries.

ON THE LARGE SOUTHERN FRONT

Military Operations

NEW SUCCESSFUL P.L.A.F. OFFENSIVES IN TAY NINH

Major part of provincial capital controlled by patriots.

U.S. base at Tay Ninh overran for 3rd time in 3 weeks.

In the small hours of Sept. 11, a new wave of offensives by the P.L.A.F. erupted. Tay Ninh province, Northwest of Saigon. Many targets came under attack and sharp fighting is still in progress. *Giai Phong Press Agency* reported.

At 3 a.m., after a barrage of artillery fire, Liberation infantrymen assaulted the U.S. Tra Phi base, 7 km Northwest of the provincial capital. In a fierce hand-to-hand combat, the patriots were in control of the terrain at 3 a.m., destroyed a large quantity of munitions and armaments, tanks and planes, a large number of enemy troops out of action.

At the same time, at Village Three in Ben Cui, near Dau Tieng, the H.Q. of a brigade of the U.S. 1st Infantry Division (12 km East-Southeast of Tay Ninh), another U.S. base camp suffered the same fate after an one-hour battle.

Meanwhile, other U.S. units sent into Tay Ninh and seized control of many districts East, South and West of the city. The local people exercise their control over the streets and the entire grip. Hundreds of families concentrated in camps took advantage of this opportunity to return to their native villages in the liberated areas.

Simultaneously, 4 military sub-sector H.Q.'s in the province were pounded by Liberation gunners and many communists were mangled by the local people.

It was further reported that 14 U.S. armoured troops carriers were destroyed on Sept. 3 between Tay Ninh and Da

Tieng and that on Sept. 7, the 3rd Special forces camp at Ben Thanh (11 km Southwest of Tay Ninh) sustained serious losses in a P.L.A.F. attack.

Another report of *Giai Phong Press Agency* said that in the same province, the U.S.-puppet troops suffered considerable losses in the last 10 days of August in Trang Bang district alone, 10 km Northwest of Saigon, on Highway No One: 800 enemy soldiers among them 550 men of Brigade 3, U.S. 10th Air Cavalry Division, put out of action; 3 U.S. and one puppet companies were destroyed.

Total U.S.-puppet losses in the province in the second half of August amounted to 6,500 men, of them 5,200 G.I.'s, killed, wounded or captured (too prisoners), 900 vehicles, including 570 tanks and armoured cars, 51 cannons destroyed, and 26 planes or helicopters shot down. In this period, the enemy had in this province 12 battalions and 10 companies put out of action. The reinforced First Brigade of the "Tropical Lightning" Division was seriously mauled.

IN THE WESTERN HIGHLANDS

In less than a week, more than 400 adverse troops put out of action.

A puppet general and a U.S. colonel killed near Da Cap.

In the Pleiku sector, 3 enemy companies were wiped out or destroyed. On Sept. 1st, one of them was wiped out and another depleted respectively 1 km West-Southwest and 2 km Northwest of Pleiku. The third was put out of action on Highway No 14 on Sept. 4.

On the night of Sept. 1st, in a lightning attack on Pleiku Radio station, the

patriots killed or wounded 12 adversaries. On Sept. 6, a U.S. platoon was wiped out and 7 armoured cars were destroyed when a U.S. motor pool 17 km West of the city came under attack.

Further South, in the Pleiku Thuet sector, the P.L.A.F. on Sept. 1st brought down 6 helicopters called in to provide support for the besieged Duc Lap camp. Two days later, a raid on an airfield 8 km Southeast of Ben Ma Thuet, they put 100 enemy troops out of action and burnt down 5 military depots and 12 barracks.

On Sept. 6, the P.L.A.F. shot down a helicopter near Duc Lap, killing the puppet general commanding the 23rd Division and several other officers including a U.S. colonel.

In addition to the losses sustained by the adversary in other sectors of the Western Highlands, the battle count for the period from Sept. 1 to Sept. 7 put enemy losses at 1,150 casualties (including nearly 800 G.I.'s), 7 artillery pieces and 22 military vehicles put out of action and 13 planes and choppers grounded.

IN CENTRAL TRUNG BO (CENTRAL VIET NAM)

3rd enemy disaster in Go Huynh on Sept. 3 and 650 U.S.-puppet troops put out of action in 6 days in the Da Nang sector.

G.P. Press Agency reported a great victory in the Quang Ninh sector (115 km southeast of Da Nang) where, as reported in our last issue, one battalion and 7 companies of patriots were wiped out or put in 2 combat on Aug. 22 and the following day at Go Huynh. On Sept. 3, engaging several enemy columns in

this sector, less than 10 km West of Quang Ngai City, the P.L.A.F. destroyed 3 more companies of puppet regulars and set 6 M-113 armoured troops carrying 300 men. This was the third disaster of the adversary in Go Huynh in 13 days, which brought total enemy losses in this area to about a thousand men put out of action.

In the neighbourhood of Da Nang, in the 3 days ending Sept. 1st, the patriots beat off a series of enemy counter-attacks near Vinh Dien, killing, wounding or capturing 420 enemy troops. On Sept. 1st, 10 U.S. platoons were destroyed at Da Loc and a big fire gutted Xuan Thieu airfield (12 km Northwest of Da Nang) which was pounded on the night of Sept. 4.

All told, between Aug. 30 and Sept. 4, 650 soldiers were put out of action in the Da Nang sector.

NEAR HUE CITY

An artillery battalion, an infantry company and an operational H.Q. of the U.S. force destroyed.

On Aug. 29 at Zero hour sharp, G.P. Press Agency dispatch said a violent assault was launched against a U.S. position at

A typical co-ordinated action between the people and Liberation forces

TAY NINH UP IN ARMS

Since the night of August 15, the people's armed forces and people of Tay Ninh have been mounting violent and repeated attacks on enemy positions all over the province.

In co-ordinated actions with strata of the people, various strata of the people, regardless of religion, have risen in arms to break the enemy's grip and conquer freedom. N.F.L. flags and slogans appearing everywhere have heralded a new revolutionary situation in the whole province.

While the Quy Thien post in the Cao Dai Holy See was being overran, the local people hunted down thugs in the streets, 6,000 people cut off Highway No 10 on Highway No 12, 15 inhabitants destroyed a 15-metre long bridge, 4 kilometres South-east of Go-dan, and set up some hundred obstacles. Traffic on Highway No 19 was also interrupted because of the destruction of a bridge and other sabotages. Highway No 22 was sealed by the communists wide ditch.

On August 18, Liberation troops broke into "strategic hamlets" in the Cao Dai Holy See area, enthusiastically welcomed and helped by

Vi Giang Thuong, on a fortified hill 12 km South of Hue. After 35 minutes of hand-to-hand fighting, the P.L.A.F. gained control of the hilltop, completely destroying the post. An artillery battalion, an infantry company and the U.S. Operational H.Q. were wiped out, 431 U.S. soldiers killed, wounded or taken prisoner, and 12 105-mm and 175-mm howitzers, 4 machine guns, one helicopter and many anti-personnel mines destroyed. Many weapons fell into the hands of the attacking forces.

In the Melong Delta, on the night of Sept. 6, and early next day, the P.L.A.F. shelled the H.Q. of puppet Division 7, the My Tho military sector H.Q., provincial administrative buildings and a revolutionary training camp in this city. My Tho provincial capital and sub-sector H.Q.'s of the province came under fire in the last 10 days of August. In this period, the adversary lost 1,552 men (including 800 G.I.'s) put out of action, 38 vehicles destroyed, 8 planes and helicopters grounded, 4 vessels sunk and 105-mm howitzers destroyed.

The Cao Dai community, Cao Dai dignitaries, civil servants, former officers and believers, in co-ordination with the people's forces, carried out agents from revolutionary organisations and the enemy's machine of repression, punished a number of criminal agents and reformed others.

In some places, after holding mass meetings, the people demonstrated before posts against the enemy's crimes, for compensation for losses suffered and the ending of destruction. The communists, with artillery and aircraft of 100 houses in the quarter and strafing of the Holy See Hospital. Leaflets carrying the N.F.L. slogan "Down with the U.S. imperialists" were extensively distributed.

3,000 peasants from Thanh Da village in the outskirts of Tay Ninh city crowded into the provincial capital, in a 4-kilometre long procession, carrying 200 oxen and buffaloes, 100 hand carts and ox-carts which blocked the way of enemy tanks and armoured vehicles. The communists shouted slogans demanding the ending of wanton shellings and damages for losses suffered.

In 4 days, from August 16 to 20, in the provincial capital, districts and villages, there were actions staged by over 70,000 people against the U.S., for democratic liberties and for their right to be masters of their own destiny.

*Liberation fighters
learning lessons of experience
for the next battle.*

